Monetary Limit for Fixation of Poverty Line

1499. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN : Will the Minister PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) what is the present monetary limit of "below poverty line" when it was decided;

(b) whether this limit is sufficient when the prices have gone to the maximum height;

(c) if so, whether Government are proposing enhancement of this limit to Rs. 15000;

(d) whether Government have received a representation from the Maharashtra Government in this regard;

(e) if so, the action taken thereof; and

(f) if answer to the part (e) above in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The Task Force on projections of Minimum Needs and Effective Consumption Demand constituted by the Planning Commission in 1979 recommended a poverty line of Rs. 49.09 per capita per month for rural areas and Rs. 56.64 per capita per month for urban areas at 1973-74 prices. The poverty lines have been updated for the year 1993-94 as monthly per capita consumption expenditure of Rs. 229.14 in rural areas and Rs. 264.38 in urban areas.

(b) The poverty lines are adjusted by the price rise implicit in the private consumption expenditure deflator obtained in the National Accounts Statistics of Central Statistical Organisation and hence are able to arrest the erosion in the monetary value of the poverty line.

(c) The poverty lines are updated at a periodic intervals in line with the price rise. The figure referred to in the question is not per capita-but for a family and annual.

(d) Planning Commission has no knowledge in this regard.

(e) In view of (d) above, does not arise.

(f) In view of (e) above, does not arise.

Sanitary Conditions in Government Offices

1500. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the pathetic sanitary conditions in Government offices in Delhi, including defence headquarters, particularly in lavatories and basements located; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and what measures Government propose to take to improve the situation, particularly in view of the Dengue disease in the capital?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir. Sanitary conditions in some of the Government buildings are not upto the mark. Parimarily, it is due to the fact that sometimes adequate attention is not paid by the occupant Deptts./Ministries who are responsible for sanitation and house keeping of the premises on day to day basis.

(b) The sanitary fittings and fixtures are checked periodically by the CPWD staff to ensue proper functioning. During the Dengue out break special drives were undertaken by CPWD to clean and disinfoct the water tanks, cover all the manholes properly, remove all stagnating water and isolate water logged potted plants wherever existing.